Metal scrap

4003. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railway generate as well as disposes large volume of metal scrap every year;

(b) if so, the details of volume of scrap generated and volume/value of disposal made since 1995-96 upto 2003-04;

(c) procedure followed during the said period in screening, evaluating and disposing Railways' scrap;

(d) the cases where disposal made through competitive open tender, number of parties participated in tender;

(e) whether changes/modifications have been made in the erstwhile procedure as per the policy announcement made in the Rail Budget 2004-05; and

(f) if so, details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of volume of scrap generated and volume/value of disposal from 1995-96 to 2003-04 are as under:

Years	Metal Scrap (MT)		Rolling Stock				Total Value (in Crs. of Rupees)
			Wagons (in FWUs)		Coaches plus Locos(In Nos.)		
	Generated	Disposal	Generated	Disposal	Generated	Disposal	
1995-96	*	1023661	*	21886	*	2799	1018
1996-97	*	838163	*	18157	*	2249	833
1997-98	*	995084	*	14789	*	1916	876
1998-99	*	868476	*	12707	*	1797	765
1999-2000	*	988577	*	16226	*	1682	898
2000-2001	909144	866480	28849	26262	1559	1558	949
2001-2002	911624	895011	16147	19403	1144	1163	936
2002-2003	1000230	1051014	14489	14788	1107	1237	1111
2003-2004	912081	886846	12625	12151	1365	1403	1314

* Records not maintained being more than 5 years old.

(c) The scrap generated is screened and segregated in different categories like melting scrap, re-rolling scrap etc. It is then evaluated by Survey Committee and their recommendation are approved by Competent Authority before it is declared as scrap for disposal. The sale of scrap is arranged through Public Auction/Advertised Tender. The schedule dates for scrap are given wide publicity in the newspapers. Any prospective bidder can participate.

(d) The scrap disposal on Indian Railway is done mainly through public auction. For some items like turning & boring etc., disposal was made through advertised tender. The number of parties participated in the tenders varied from 2 to 18.

(e) and (f) In last year's Budget, it was decided to explore the possibilities of in-house utilization of scrap by recycling it, instead of selling it to outside parties subject to detailed examination of the logistics, cost benefits analysis etc. A high level committee was constituted in this regard. Committee has submitted its report, which is under examination. Meanwhile, a Wheel Plant has been approved at Chhapra, which will use scrap as one of the raw materials.

Expansion promotion and upgradation of railway tourism

4004. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for expansion, promotion and upgradation of railway tourism in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of such plan with the total allocation of resources in the Railway Budget; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The Railways has taken various steps for